

CT-198

ED SMITH CABIN, Claggett Road

Sunderland

mid-19th century

Private

This unassuming one-story, one-room cabin has been occupied by black families for several generations. The cabin once had a dirt floor and was heated by a large exterior chimney in the west end, since torn down. The top of a finely reeded mantel, which may have been re-used, survives. An enclosed stair leads to the loft.

During Prohibition the tobacco barn near the cabin was a transfer site for whiskey brewed in a nearby still. The cabin's most notable historical event occurred when one of the bootleggers, who had smashed his Cadillac into a motorcycle cop who was pursuing him, hid out in the little building. He surrendered to machine-gun-wielding authorities and was later electrocuted.